

DESCRIPTION

The Watsonville Slough System consists of six major branch sloughs: Watsonville, Harkins, Hanson, Struve, West Branch of Struve and Gallighan. The slough system is a network of approximately 800 acres of coastal salt marsh, seasonal wetlands, brackish and freshwater emergent marsh and riparian communities. The sloughs receive runoff from a 13,000-acre watershed area, which includes a mix of urban, industrial, rural residential, agricultural, and open space areas.

The Watsonville Slough watershed is contaminated by metals, residual pesticides, grease and oil, nutrients, and sediment. It is also evident from data and field observations (e.g., fish kills) that severe impairment of basic water quality factors such as dissolved oxygen is occurring, likely due to excessive nutrients from various land uses.



Watsonville Slough and
Pajaro River

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Project).

For more photos, visit:
www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

The Watsonville Slough was one of the original CCAs identified in 1995 as an **impaired waterbody that flows into an estuary**.

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	<u>2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants</u> TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion if available)			<u>Other Pollutants of Concern</u>		
Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	<u>Pathogens</u>	<u>Pesticides</u>	<u>Sediment</u>	?	?	
Watsonville Slough ▲	▲ Medium	▲ Low	▲ Medium			
Gallighan Slough ■						
Harkins Slough •						
Hanson Slough ♦						
Struve Slough □						
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture		▲	▲			
➤ Crop Production		▲	▲			
➤ Agricultural Storm Runoff		▲	▲			a
➤ Irrigation Tailwater		▲				
Forestry (Silviculture)						
Urban Areas						a, b
➤ Urban Runoff/ Storm Sewers	▲					a, b
➤ Construction/ Land Development						
➤ Septic Systems						
Marinas & Boating						

Watsonville Slough CCA

Potential Sources of Pollutants, continued	Pathogens	Pesticides	Sediment	?	?	Efforts to Address Pollutants
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						c
Unspecified Nonpoint Source	▲	▲	▲			
Unknown Source	▲					

MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network			http://www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/welcome.html
	NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	Bridget Hoover	(831) 883-9303	info@monitoringnetwork.org bhoover@monitoringnetwork.org
➤ The MBS Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network is a consortium of approximately twenty citizen monitoring groups that monitor the health of the watersheds flowing into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.				
b)	Integrated Watershed Restoration Program (IWRP) for Santa Cruz County			www.iwrp.sccrcd.org
	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, California Coastal Conservancy, and multiple local, federal, and state partners	Karen Christensen, Kate Goodnight	(831) 464-2950 (831) 429-1776	ed@sccrcd.org kgoodnight@scc.ca.gov
➤ Funding for designs and permits for 50-70 watershed restoration and water quality projects in seven county watersheds; focus on fish passage improvement, rural roads sediment reduction, and wetland enhancement.				
c)	Partners in Restoration Permit Coordination Program for Santa Cruz County			www.sccrcd.org
	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, and Sustainable Conservation	Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950	ed@sccrcd.org
➤ Development of first countywide permit coordination program modeled after successful effort in Elkhorn Slough. Regulator agencies agreed to issue “master permits” to RCD/NRCS to cover a suite of restoration practices.				

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ City of Watsonville, Public Works Dept.	http://www.ci.watsonville.ca.us/	David Koch	(831) 768-3173	publicworks@ci.watsonville.ca.us
➤ Santa Cruz County	http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/	Donna Bradford	(831) 454-7580	PLN714@co.santa-cruz.ca.us
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Ross Clark	(831) 427-4873	rclark@coastal.ca.gov
➤ Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/	Bill Arkfeld	(805) 542-4627	barkfeld@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/	Steve Fagundes	(916) 341-5487	sfagundes@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ California Coastal Conservancy	http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/	Terri Nevins	(510) 286-4161	tnevins@scc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Marine Region	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/	Kevin Urquhart	(831) 649-2882	kurquhart@dfg.ca.gov
➤ NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	http://www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/	Chris Coburn	(831) 420-1670	Chris.Coburn@noaa.gov